

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00703 241754Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OFA-01 OES-03 DLOS-04

CG-00 DOTE-00 STR-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /077 W

----- 029391

R 241645Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5433

CINCLANT

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USNATO 1138

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE REYKJAVIK 0703

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, IC, UK

SUBJECT: HALLGRIMSSON-WILSON MEETING ON FISHERIES

1. LOCAL PRESS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT MEETING HAD TAKEN PLACE IN LONDON BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER HALLGRIMSSON AND WILSON. MEETING WAS DESCRIBED AS "COURTESY CALL" BY HALLGRIMSSON EN ROUTE HOME FROM MEETING OF NORDIC COORDINATION MINISTERS IN STOCKHOLM. HALLGRIMSSON TOLD PRESS ON RETURN THAT IN COURSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION OF MATTERS OF INTEREST TO BOTH COUNTRIES, HE HAD OUTLINED TO BRITISH ICELANDIC PLANS FOR EXTENSION OF FISHERIES LIMITS TO 200 MILES AND REASONS THEREFOR. BRITISH, IN TURN, HAD NOTED THAT PRESENT AGREEMENT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00703 241754Z

EXPIRES NOVEMBER 13 AND HAD REQUESTED NEGOTIATIONS

FOR NEW UNDERSTANDING. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN, ICELANDIC AMBASSADOR NIELS SIGURDSSON, AND EDWARD BISHOP, SENIOR OFFICIAL FROM MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE CHARGED WITH FISHERIES AFFAIRS.

2. BRITISH EMBASSY HAS NOT YET RECEIVED FULL REPORT BUT UNDERSTAND NO SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS TOOK PLACE. MEETING WAS AT INITIATIVE OF HALLGRIMSSON WHO MADE IT CLEAR GOI WISHES AVOID CONFRONTATION BUT IS NOT YET READY FOR DISCUSSION OF SPECIFICS.

3. BRITISH CLAIM TO HAVE INDICATION OF SEVERAL MOTIVATIONS OPERATING TO ENCOURAGE HALLGRIMSSON TO SEIZE INITIATIVE IN THIS MATTER. THERE IS PRECEDENT STEMMING FROM PRESENT AGREEMENT WHICH WAS FORCED THROUGH PREVIOUS LEFTIST CABINET BY FORMER PM OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN AND WHO NOW (AS PARTNER IN PRESENT COALITION) PROBABLY APPROVED HALLGRIMSSON VISIT. BRITISH BELIEVE HALLGRIMSSON ALSO MAY HAVE COME TO CONCLUSION THAT TO LEAVE MATTERS IN HANDS OF FONMIN EINAR AGUSTSSON MIGHT WELL MEAN DRIFT TOWARDS ANOTHER CONFRONTATION. THEY BELIEVE FISHERIES MINISTER MATTHIAS BJARNASON IS STRONG-MINDED MAN WHO HAS ALSO DECIDED SENSIBLE AGREEMENT CAN BE MADE AND HAS ENCOURAGED HALLGRIMSSON. THEY SUSPECT ICELANDERS SEE NO IMMEDIATE PROSPECT OF IMPROVEMENT IN TERMS OF TRADE FOR ICELANDIC FISH PRODUCTS IN UNITED STATES AND ARE THEREFORE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED ABOUT CONTINUING LACK OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS IN EC COUNTRIES (STEMMING FROM FAILURE TO SETTLE FISHERIES ISSUE WITH BOTH UK AND FRG). FINALLY, THEY BELIEVE HALLGRIMSSON IS CONCERNED THAT DRIFT TOWARD ANOTHER CONFRONTATION WITH UK COULD CAUSE SERIOUS DEVISIVE PRESURES ON COALITION. AT SAME TIME, THEY GIVE HIM CREDIT FOR BEING HONESTLY CONCERNED WITH NATO SOLIDARITY AND WITH DANGERS WHICH ANOTHER COD WAR COULD UNLEASH.

4. WHILE BRITISH WILL HOLD FEW TRUMPS IN NEGOTIATIONS, THEY BELIEVE ICELANDERS WANT TO KEEP FISHING RIGHTS IN NORTH SEA AND OFF SCOTTISH COAST EVEN THOUGH HERRING STOCKS ARE DECLINING. ALSO, ICELANDERS ARE MAKING IT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 REYKJA 00703 241754Z

FAIRLY CLEAR THEY HOPE TO ISOLATE FRG AND BRING ALLIED PRESSURES TO BEAR ON THEM FOR SETTLEMENT. IRVING

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, TERRITORIAL SEA LIMIT, FISHERIES MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975REYKJA00703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750219-0543
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750621/aaaaasvb.tel
Line Count: 110
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HALLGRIMSSON-WILSON MEETING ON FISHERIES
TAGS: EFIS, IC, UK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006